

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An inhaler aid, comprising:

a main unit having a silicon rubber tube used to aid an inhaler for minute powdery curative medicine, and ~~a junction a horn-shaped junction~~ at a lower portion of the main unit, said junction having a horn-shape in plan view such that a front joint piece and a rear joint piece of the junction project further in a longitudinal direction than left and right lateral ends of the junction, and having an arched shape in side view such that said front joint piece and said rear joint piece correspond to bases of the arched shape and the left and right lateral ends correspond to a top of the arched shape;

an engagement portion which is provided at an upper portion of the main unit, the engagement portion including left and right projections, each having a holding member at an end thereof; and

a reed fitted into a right side of the main unit;

wherein ~~only~~ when the inhaler aid is joined to a mouthpiece of the inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine ~~and an inhalation has been correctly performed~~, a sound is produced from the reed only when an inhalation has been correctly performed.

2. (Currently Amended) An inhaler aid to be attached to at least one type of inhaler, comprising:

a main unit having a tube used to release a minute powdery curative medicine therethrough, and a ~~horn-shaped~~ junction attachable to a mouthpiece of the inhaler, said junction having a horn-

shape in plan view such that a front joint piece and a rear joint piece of the junction project further in a longitudinal direction than left and right lateral ends of the junction, and having an arched shape in side view such that said front joint piece and said rear joint piece correspond to bases of the arched shape and the left and right lateral ends correspond to a top of the arched shape;

an engagement portion which is provided at an upper portion of the main unit, the engagement portion including left and right projections, each having a holding member at an end thereof; and

a reed fitted into a right side of the main unit;

wherein ~~only~~ when the inhaler aid is joined to the mouthpiece of the inhaler for the minute powdery curative medicine ~~and an inhalation has been correctly performed by whirling up the minute powdery curative medicine~~, a sound is produced from the reed only when an inhalation has been correctly performed by whirling up the minute powdery curative medicine.

3. (Previously Presented) The inhaler aid according to claim 2, wherein said tube is formed of a silicon rubber.